

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 STR-04 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06
TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01
NSC-05 SS-15 CEA-01 L-03 DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01
/098 W

-----270331Z 127782 /72

R 261751Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2128
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USDEL MTN GENEVA

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PASS AGRICULTURE AND STR FROM AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, FR, EC, ECON
SUBJECT: EC INCLUSION IN INTERNATIONAL GRAIN CONSULTATIONS

1. ON APRIL 25 AGATT MADE COURTESY CALL ON NEW MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE PIERRE MEHAIGNERIE. ALSO PRESENT WERE DR. JACQUES BLANC, STATE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, AND MR. CHRISTIAN CARDON, CHEF DU CABINET.

2. AFTER USUAL EXCHANGE OF COURTESIES, AGMIN MEHAIGNERIE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT FRANCE WAS EXCLUDED FROM MEETING IN OTTAWA LAST WEEK OF MAJOR WHEAT EXPORTERS. "LE MONDE" ,MAJOR EVENING NEWSPAPER, REPORTED ON THIS MEETING IN ITS WEEKEND EDITION NOTING THAT EC WAS NOT INVITED AND THAT THESE FOUR EXPORTING COUNTRIES WERE PERHAPS CONSIDERING ESTABLISHMENT OF WHEAT CARTEL. IN ABSENCE OF SPECIFIC GUIDANCE, AGATT RESPONDED THAT IT WAS CUSTOMARY FOR US

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TO CONSULT INFORMALLY WITH THESE COUNTRIES PRIOR TO MEETINGS OF IWA IN LONDON. AGATT ALSO INDICATED THAT US-EC CONSULTATIONS WERE HELD LAST WEEK DURING WHICH AGRICULTURE AND OTHER TRADE ISSUES WERE DISCUSSED. THUS THERE WAS NOT ATTEMPT TO EXCLUDE EC FROM AGRICULTURAL POLICY DISCUSSIONS.

3. DESPITE ASSURANCES TO CONTRARY, AGMIN MEHAIGNERIE STILL FELT THAT FRANCE WAS BEING EXCLUDED FROM IMPORTANT DISCUSSIONS THAT AFFECT ITS MAJOR INTERESTS. GIVEN THAT FRANCE IS SECOND LARGEST EXPORTER OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, THIS CONCERN IS LOGICAL.

4. COMMENT: IN ORDER TO IMPROVE US-EC AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS, IN WHICH FRANCE PLAYS KEY ROLE, CLOSER CO-ORDINATION AND/OR CONSULTATIONS WITH GOF ON MAJOR INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL POLICY ISSUES WOULD SEEM TO BE DESIRABLE. OTHERWISE, FRANCE IS FORCED INTO DEFENSIVE POSITION, WHICH USUALLY MEANS THEY MUST SUPPORT AN "INDEPENDENT" (I.E. NON AMERICAN) OPTION. IN FACT, WE ARE WONDERING WHETHER OR NOT IN FUTURE MEETING OF THIS TYPE, WE SHOULD CONSIDER INCLUDING AN EC OR EVEN A FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE.

5. ACTION: PLEASE ADVISE NATURE OF GRAIN DISCUSSIONS IN OTTAWA AND PROVIDE PRESS GUIDANCE.
HARLAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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